

USDA/Rural Development

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News Release

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE BUILDING SYSTEMS, LLC

Whitewright, Texas, November 18, 2002 – USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel, announced today \$137,500 in economic development to strengthen rural communities in Texas, as part of the Bush Administration's ongoing commitment to invest and bolster programs for rural America.

Affordable Building Systems, LLC, received \$137,500 to purchase wheat straw to produce building panels for walls and ceilings and to conduct a study on wheat varieties and their attributes for the manufacturing process.

"These grants will bring new economic opportunities and job creation for rural America," said Daniel. "These grants will give rural residents the opportunity to expand and improve local businesses and economies."

These projects will help create jobs and economic investment in rural areas through direct investment and housing availability. Recipients are required to obtain matching funds, which will double the impact of the USDA grants. Funding of individual recipients will be contingent upon meeting the conditions of the grant agreement. For information on 2003 funding availability and applications please visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm>.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers financial and technical assistance through three agencies: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service and Rural Utilities Service.

For further information on USDA Rural Development programs, call the McKinney Local Service Center at 972-542-0081, Extension 4.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's 53 million rural people.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

